



SCHWEGMAN ■ LUNDBERG ■ WOESSNER ■ KLUTH

## United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **THERMAL INTERFACE APPARATUS, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS.**

The specification of which was filed on June 30, 2003 as application serial no. 10/612711.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (attached hereto). I also acknowledge my duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability which became available between a filing date of a prior application and the national or PCT international filing date in the event this is a Continuation-In-Part application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(e).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

**No such claim for priority is being made at this time.**

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

**No such claim for priority is being made at this time.**

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 or 365(c) of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**No such claim for priority is being made at this time.**

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Aldous, Alan	Reg. No. 31,905	Greenwald, Bradley A.	Reg. No. 34,341	Perdok, Monique M.	Reg. No. 42,989
Anderson, Robert D.	Reg. No. 33,826	Harris, Robert J.	Reg. No. 37,346	Peret, Andrew R.	Reg. No. 41,246
Anglin, J. Michael	Reg. No. 24,916	Huter, Jeffrey B.	Reg. No. 41,086	Peterson, David C.	Reg. No. 47,857
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Black, David W.	Reg. No. 42,331	Kluth, Daniel J.	Reg. No. 32,146	Schumm, Sherry W.	Reg. No. 39,422
Brake, Edward	Reg. No. 37,784	Lacy, Rodney L.	Reg. No. 41,136	Schwegman, Micheal L.	Reg. No. 25,816
Brennan, Thomas F.	Reg. No. 35,075	Lam, Peter	Reg. No. 44,855	Seddon, Ken	Reg. No. 43,105
Burge, Ben	Reg. No. 42,372	Lin, Issac	Reg. No. 50,672	Seeley, Mark	Reg. No. 32,299
Chadwick, Robin A.	Reg. No. 36,477	Lundberg, Steven W.	Reg. No. 30,568	Shah, Ami P.	Reg. No. 42,143
Chen, George	Reg. No. 50,807	Lundmark, David C.	Reg. No. 42,815	Simon, David	Reg. No. 32,756
Choi, Glen	Reg. No. 43,546	Maki, Peter C.	Reg. No. 42,832	Skabrat, Steve	Reg. No. 36,279
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DeLizio, Andrew	Reg. No. 52,806	Mennemeier, Larry	Reg. No. 51,003	Tong, Viet V.	Reg. No. 45,416
Draeger, Jeffrey S.	Reg. No. 41,000	Muller, Mark V.	Reg. No. 37,509	Tran, David	Reg. No. 50,804
Drake, Eduardo E.	Reg. No. 40,594	Nagy, Paul	Reg. No. 37,896	Viksins, Ann S.	Reg. No. 37,748
Embretson, Janet E.	Reg. No. 39,665	Nama, Prakash	Reg. No. 44,255	Wells, Calvin	Reg. No. 43,256
Faatz, Cindy	Reg. No. 39,973	Nelson, A. James	Reg. No. 28,650	Willardson, Michael	Reg. No. 50,856
Forrest, Bradley A.	Reg. No. 30,837	Nicholls, Dennis A.	Reg. No. 42,036	Winkle, Robert G.	Reg. No. 37,474
Gagne, Christopher	Reg. No. 36,142	Nielsen, Walter W.	Reg. No. 25,539	Woessner, Warren D.	Reg. No. 30,440
Gorrie, Gregory J.	Reg. No. 36,530	Padys, Danny J.	Reg. No. 35,635	Wong, Sharon	Reg. No. 37,760
Greaves, John N.	Reg. No. 40,362	Parker, Lanny	Reg. No. 44,281	Yates, Steven D.	Reg. No. 42,242
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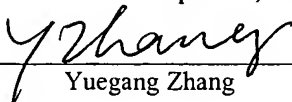
I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A. to the contrary. Please direct all correspondence in this case to **Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.** at the address indicated below:  
**P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402**  
**Telephone No. (612)373-6900**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of joint inventor number 1 : **Yuegang Zhang**  
Citizenship: **China**  
Post Office Address: **7974 Woodlark Way**  
**Cupertino, CA 95014**

Residence: **Cupertino, CA**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Yuegang Zhang

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**11/18/2003**

Full Name of joint inventor number 2 : **C. Michael Garner**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Pleasanton, CA**

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Michael Garner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 3 : **Andrew A. Berlin**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **San Jose, CA**

Post Office Address: **1789 Dalton Place  
San Jose, CA 95124**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Andrew A. Berlin

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 4 : **Valluri Rao**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Saratoga, CA**

Post Office Address: **15115 El Quito Way  
Saratoga, CA 95070**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Valluri Rao

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 5 : **Bryan M. White**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Smyrna, GA**

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Bryan M. White

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 6 : **Paul A. Koning**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Chandler, AZ**

Post Office Address: **722 West Raven Drive  
Chandler, AZ 85248**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Paul A. Koning

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.



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# United States Patent Application

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Greenberg, Robert A.	Reg. No. 44,133	Peacock, Gregg A.	Reg. No. 45,001		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to **Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.** at the address indicated below:

**P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402**  
**Telephone No. (612)373-6900**

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Citizenship: **China**

Residence: **Cupertino, CA**

Post Office Address: **7974 Woodlark Way**  
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Yuegang Zhang**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 2 : **C. Michael Garner**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Pleasanton, CA**

Post Office Address: 2781 Camino Casa Buena  
Pleasanton, CA 94566

Signature: C. Michael Garner  
C. Michael Garner

Date: 11/17/03

---

Full Name of joint inventor number 3 : **Andrew A. Berlin**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **San Jose, CA**

Post Office Address: 1789 Dalton Place  
San Jose, CA 95124

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew A. Berlin

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Full Name of joint inventor number 4 : **Valluri Rao**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Saratoga, CA**

Post Office Address: 15115 El Quito Way  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Valluri Rao

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Full Name of joint inventor number 5 : **Bryan M. White**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Smyrna, GA**

Post Office Address: 715 Maner Ter  
Smyrna, GA 30080

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan M. White

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Full Name of joint inventor number 6 : **Paul A. Koning**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Chandler, AZ**

Post Office Address: 722 West Raven Drive  
Chandler, AZ 85248

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paul A. Koning

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

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- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
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(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
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Brennan, Thomas F.	Reg. No. 35,075	Lam, Peter	Reg. No. 44,855	Seddon, Ken	Reg. No. 43,105
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Greenberg, Robert A.	Reg. No. 44,133	Peacock, Gregg A.	Reg. No. 45,001		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A. to the contrary. Please direct all correspondence in this case to **Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.** at the address indicated below:  
**P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402**  
**Telephone No. (612)373-6900**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of joint inventor number 1 : **Yuegang Zhang**  
Citizenship: **China**  
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**Cupertino, CA 95014**

Residence: **Cupertino, CA**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Yuegang Zhang**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 2 : C. Michael Garner

Citizenship: United States of America

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Pleasanton, CA 94566

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Michael Garner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 3 : Andrew A. Berlin

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence: San Jose, CA

Post Office Address: 1789 Dalton Place  
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Signature: Andrew A. Berlin

Andrew A. Berlin

Date: 11-14-2003

Full Name of joint inventor number 4 : Valluri Rao

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Signature: V. R. M. Rao

Valluri Rao

Date: 11-13-2003

Full Name of joint inventor number 5 : Bryan M. White

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Bryan M. White

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Citizenship: United States of America

Residence: Chandler, AZ

Post Office Address: 722 West Raven Drive  
Chandler, AZ 85248

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Paul A. Koning

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.



SCHWEGMAN ■ LUNDBERG ■ WOESSNER ■ KLUTH

## United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **THERMAL INTERFACE APPARATUS, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS.**

The specification of which was filed on June 30, 2003 as application serial no. 10/612711.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (attached hereto). I also acknowledge my duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability which became available between a filing date of a prior application and the national or PCT international filing date in the event this is a Continuation-In-Part application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(e).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

**No such claim for priority is being made at this time.**

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

**No such claim for priority is being made at this time.**

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 or 365(c) of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**No such claim for priority is being made at this time.**

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Aldous, Alan	Reg. No. 31,905	Greenwald, Bradley A.	Reg. No. 34,341	Perdok, Monique M.	Reg. No. 42,989
Anderson, Robert D.	Reg. No. 33,826	Harris, Robert J.	Reg. No. 37,346	Peret, Andrew R.	Reg. No. 41,246
Anglin, J. Michael	Reg. No. 24,916	Huter, Jeffrey B.	Reg. No. 41,086	Peterson, David C.	Reg. No. 47,857
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Full Name of joint inventor number 1 : **Yuegang Zhang**  
Citizenship: **China**  
Post Office Address: **7974 Woodlark Way**  
**Cupertino, CA 95014**

Residence: **Cupertino, CA**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Yuegang Zhang**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 2 : **C. Michael Garner**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Pleasanton, CA**

Post Office Address: **2781 Camino Casa Buena  
Pleasanton, CA 94566**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Michael Garner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 3 : **Andrew A. Berlin**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **San Jose, CA**

Post Office Address: **1789 Dalton Place  
San Jose, CA 95124**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Andrew A. Berlin

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 4 : **Valluri Rao**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Saratoga, CA**

Post Office Address: **15115 El Quito Way  
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Valluri Rao

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of joint inventor number 5 : **Bryan M. White**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Smyrna, GA**

Post Office Address: **715 Maner Ter  
Smyrna, GA 30080**

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Bryan M. White

Date: 11/12/03

Full Name of joint inventor number 6 : **Paul A. Koning**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Chandler, AZ**

Post Office Address: **722 West Raven Drive  
Chandler, AZ 85248**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Paul A. Koning

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
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- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

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SCHWEGMAN ■ LUNDBERG ■ WOESSNER ■ KLUTH

## United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **THERMAL INTERFACE APPARATUS, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS.**

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I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

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I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

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Embretson, Janet E.	Reg. No. 39,665	Nama, Prakash	Reg. No. 44,255	Wells, Calvin	Reg. No. 43,256
Faatz, Cindy	Reg. No. 39,973	Nelson, A. James	Reg. No. 28,650	Willardson, Michael	Reg. No. 50,856
Forrest, Bradley A.	Reg. No. 30,837	Nicholls, Dennis A.	Reg. No. 42,036	Winkle, Robert G.	Reg. No. 37,474
Gagne, Christopher	Reg. No. 36,142	Nielsen, Walter W.	Reg. No. 25,539	Woessner, Warren D.	Reg. No. 30,440
Gorrie, Gregory J.	Reg. No. 36,530	Padys, Danny J.	Reg. No. 35,635	Wong, Sharon	Reg. No. 37,760
Greaves, John N.	Reg. No. 40,362	Parker, Lanny	Reg. No. 44,281	Yates, Steven D.	Reg. No. 42,242
Green, Sharmini N.	Reg. No. 41,410	Parker, J. K.	Reg. No. 33,024	Young, Charles K.	Reg. No. 39,435
Greenberg, Robert A.	Reg. No. 44,133	Peacock, Gregg A.	Reg. No. 45,001		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A. to the contrary. Please direct all correspondence in this case to **Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.** at the address indicated below:  
**P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402**  
**Telephone No. (612)373-6900**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Date: Nov 17 2003

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.